

COMMITTEE REPORT



REPORT TYPE: Personnel Committee Report

MEETING: September 23, 2021

Present: Ricky Thurman, Chair; LeAnn Durfey, Daron Trussell

Absent: Gerald Cook

DEPARTMENT: Public Safety

STAFF CONTACT: Chief Dan Harris, Interim Chief Chuck Elliott

MENTAL HEALTH LEAVE POLICY

The committee met to discuss a proposed mental health leave policy. Effective September 1, 2021, law enforcement agencies are required to develop and adopt a policy allowing the use of mental health leave by the peace officers employed by the agency who experience a traumatic event in the scope of that employment. This Mental Health Policy is required under SB 1359, codified at Chapter 614, Subchapter A-1, Government Code.

SB 1359 only requires that peace officers be granted mental health leave, however, the proposed policy includes emergency medical technicians, firefighters, telecommunications officers, and other public safety employees that may be required to respond to traumatic events.

Motion by Daron Trussell, second by LeAnn Durfey, to forward a positive recommendation of the Mental Health Leave Policy, as presented.